

**Security Council**

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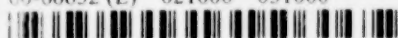
Letter dated 28 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 28 September 2000 from Mr. Humam Abd Al-Khaliq Abd Al-Ghafur, Minister of Culture and Information and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the ongoing wanton aggression against Iraq by United States and British aircraft in the unlawful no-fly zones. During the period from 9 to 23 September 2000, these aircraft carried out 629 aggressive sorties, 367 of them from Saudi Arabia, 102 from Kuwait and 160 from Turkey.

The Minister urges you to intervene with the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom and the countries that participate in this aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to inducing them to halt their aggression and show respect for international law and the sovereignty of Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. Hasan
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 28 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey have continued to violate the airspace of the Republic of Iraq. In the period from 9 to 23 September 2000, these aircraft carried out 629 sorties, 367 of them from Saudi Arabia, 102 from Kuwait and 160 from Turkey, as shown hereunder.

1. In the northern region 160 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1030 hours on 10 September 2000 United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Amadiyah, Mosul, Zakho, Rawanduz, Dukan and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1330 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1050 hours on 11 September 2000 United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Mosul, Irbil, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah and Aqrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1415 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1100 hours on 12 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah, Aqrah, Amadiyah, Zakho, Rawanduz and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1330 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1045 hours on 13 September 2000 United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Aqrah, Amadiyah, Zakho and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1250 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 1100 hours on 14 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah, Aqrah, Amadiyah, Rawanduz and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1435 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 1100 hours on 18 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah, Amadiyah, Zakho, Rawanduz and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1405 hours, drove them off.

(g) At 1100 hours on 19 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Amadiyah, Zakho and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1405 hours, drove them off.

(h) At 1200 hours on 20 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Aqrah, Amadiyah, Zakho, Dukan, Rawanduz and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1505 hours, drove them off.

(i) At 1230 hours on 21 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 24 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Tall Afar, Aqrah, Amadiyah, Zakho, Dukan, Rawanduz and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1420 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 469 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 0842 hours on 9 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 40 missions, 32 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and eight from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basra, Amarah, Samawah, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Diwaniyah, Ukhaydir, Afak, Qal'at Salih, Jalibah and Lasaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1330 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1900 hours on 10 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 26 missions, 22 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and four from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Salman, Nasiriyah, Basra, Jalibah, Shinafiyah and

Lasaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 2020 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1430 hours on 12 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 missions, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and four from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Artawi, Basra, Samawah, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Qal'at Salih, Lasaf, Amarah, Shinafiyah and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1535 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1400 hours on 13 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 missions, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and six from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Basra, Lasaf, Salman, Amarah, Najaf, Qurnah, Nukhayb and Qal'at Sukkar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 1515 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 1300 hours on 14 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 30 missions, 18 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace, and 12 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basra, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Amarah, Samawah, Ushbayjah, Salman, Rifa'i, Shinafiyah, Lasaf, Qal'at Sukkar, Artawi and Nukhayb areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 1715 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 0748 hours on 16 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 42 missions, 32 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 10 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Salman, Samawah, Qurnah, Basra, Lasaf, Nukhayb, Hayy, Qal'at Sukkar, Shinafiyah, Diwaniyah, Najaf and Amarah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 1805 hours, drove them off.

(g) At 1200 hours on 17 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 36 missions, 24 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 12 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Lasaf, Qurnah, Qal'at Sukkar, Diwaniyah, Ushbayjah and Amarah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 1720 hours, drove them off.

(h) At 0815 hours on 18 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 40 missions, 36 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and four from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Qal'at Sukkar, Diwaniyah, Qurnah, Lasaf, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah, Mashkhab, Hayy, Najaf south and Amarah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 1410 hours, drove them off.

(i) At 0940 hours on 19 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 44 missions, 30 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 14 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Najaf, Qurnah and Diwaniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 1340 hours, drove them off.

(j) At 1025 hours on 20 September 2000 United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 46 missions, 40 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and six from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Lasaf, Qurnah, Qal'at Sukkar, Busayyah, Shatrah, Shinafiyah, Rifa'i, Rumaythah, Mashkhab, Rahhaliyah south and Qal'at Salih areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 1400 hours, drove them off.

(k) At 0825 hours on 21 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 56 missions, 44 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 12 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Qal'at Salih, Najaf, Qurnah, Hayy, Diwaniyah, Afak, Ukhaydir, Taqtaqanah and Amarah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 1320 hours, drove them off.

(l) At 1950 hours on 22 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 43 missions, 41 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and two from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Salman, Busayyah, Artawi, Ushbayjah and Lasaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 2350 hours, drove them off.

(m) At 1105 hours on 23 September 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory

penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 34 missions, 26 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and eight from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Qal'at Sukkar, H-3, H-2, K-160, Qurnah, Salman, Rutbah, Nukhayb, Artawi, Rumaythah and Amarah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged them and, at 1420 hours, drove them off.

This aggression illustrates the bellicose attitude being maintained by the United States of America and the United Kingdom towards Iraq. Since 1992, it has become a fixed policy aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and at the systematic and concerted destruction of Iraqi lives, infrastructure and civilian installations. It is a policy that has been affirmed in successive statements made by United States and British officials defending the measures being taken to enforce the no-fly zones.

The Government of Iraq categorically rejects the two so-called no-fly zones, which were imposed by unilateral decision of the United States of America and the United Kingdom and lack any legal basis. Iraq rejects all the consequences of this illegal decision and, in particular, the flimsy excuses and pretexts used by these countries in an attempt to justify their military aggression against our country.

The logistic support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British makes these countries key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they bear international responsibility for actions that are deleterious to the people of Iraq.

The Government of Iraq, condemning these shameless acts of aggression, urges the Security Council to intervene with the Governments of the States concerned and prevail upon them to halt their aggression and respect the rules of international law and the sovereignty of Iraq.

(Signed) Humam Abd Al-Khaliq **Abd Al-Ghafur**
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq